CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

receiving a downlink broadcast burst from a base station;

determining timing for an uplink burst from the received broadcast burst;

selecting an amount of delay for the uplink burst; and

transmitting an uplink burst to the base station using the determined timing and the selected amount of delay.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein selecting an amount of delay comprises selecting a random amount of delay

3. The method of Claim 2 wherein randomly selecting comprises generating a random number and applying the random number to select a random amount of delay.

4. The method of Claim 1 wherein selecting an amount of delay comprises determining a digit from an identification number of the user terminal and applying the determined digit to selecting from among a set of different amounts of delay.

5. The method of Claim 1 wherein determining timing comprises determining nominal timing relative to a frame of the broadcast burst.

6. The method of Claim 1 wherein determining timing comprises determining timing on a broadcast channel on which the broadcast burst was received.

7. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a timing advance message from the base station in response to the uplink burst; and

advancing timing in accordance with the timing advance message reduced by the selected amount of delay.

8. The method of Claim 1 wherein the bursts comprise symbols and wherein the selected amount of delay is between zero and nine symbol times.

9. The method of Claim 1 wherein transmitting the uplink burst comprises transmitting the uplink burst with a training sequence.

10. The method of Claim 9 wherein the bursts comprise symbols, wherein the training sequence comprises a repeating core sequence and wherein the selected amount of delay corresponds to a symbol time shorter than the symbol time of the core sequence.

11. A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving a downlink broadcast burst from a base station;

determining timing for an uplink burst from the received broadcast burst;

selecting an amount of delay for the uplink burst; and

transmitting an uplink burst to the base station using the determined timing and the selected amount of delay.

12. The medium of Claim 11 wherein the instructions causing the machine to perform operations comprising selecting an amount of delay further comprise instructions for selecting a random amount of delay

13. The medium of Claim 12 wherein the instructions causing the machine to perform operations comprising randomly selecting further comprise instructions for

generating a random number and applying the random number to select a random amount of delay.

14. The medium of Claim 11 wherein the instructions causing the machine to perform operations comprising selecting an amount of delay further comprise instructions for determining a digit from an identification number of the user terminal and applying the determined digit to selecting from among a set of different amounts of delay.

15. The medium of Claim 11 wherein the instructions causing the machine to perform operations comprising determining timing further comprise instructions for determining timing on a broadcast channel on which the broadcast burst was received.

16. The medium of Claim 11 wherein the instructions further comprise instructions causing the machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving a timing advance message from the base station in response to the uplink burst; and

advancing timing in accordance with the timing advance message reduced by the selected amount of delay.

17. The medium of Claim 16 wherein the bursts comprise symbols, wherein the training sequence comprises a repeating core sequence and wherein the selected amount of delay corresponds to a symbol time shorter than the symbol time of the core sequence.

18. An apparatus comprising:

a receiver to receive a downlink broadcast burst from a base station;

a processor to determine timing for an uplink burst from the received broadcast burst and select an amount of delay for the uplink burst; and

a transmitter to transmit an uplink burst to the base station using the determined timing and the selected amount of delay.

19. The apparatus of Claim 18 wherein the processor selects an amount of delay by selecting a random amount of delay

20. The apparatus of Claim 19 wherein the processor selects a random amount of delay by generating a random number and applying the random number to select a random amount of delay.

21. The apparatus of Claim 18 further comprising a register containing an identification number of the apparatus and wherein the processor select an amount of by determining a digit from the register and applying the determined digit to selecting from among a set of different amounts of delay.

22. The apparatus of Claim 18 wherein:

the receiver receives a timing advance message from the base station in response to the uplink burst; and

the processor advances timing in accordance with the timing advance message reduced by the selected amount of delay.

23. The apparatus of Claim 18 wherein the bursts comprise symbols, wherein the training sequence comprises a repeating core sequence and wherein the selected amount of delay corresponds to a symbol time shorter than the symbol time of the core sequence.